

## TRIBUTE TO DAN SANDEL

**HON. HOWARD L. BERMAN**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 15, 2000*

Mr. BERMAN. Mr. Speaker, today we pay tribute to our friend, Dan Sandel, who will be awarded the Yitzhak Rabin Peace Award tonight by Americans for Peace Now. Dan has been chosen for this prestigious award for his many years of leadership and outstanding service in the struggle for peace in the Middle East.

Dan has not only served on the Board of Americans for Peace Now, he has served on many others including the Tel Aviv University Board and the Education for Israeli Civil Rights and Peace Board. His work to provide solutions to the Arab-Israeli conflict would certainly make the reserve officers and soldiers of the Israel Defense Forces who founded Americans for Peace Now in 1978 proud.

In addition to being a peace activist, Dan is a very successful businessman who founded Devon Industries. He not only invented and patented all of the disposable surgical equipment manufactured and distributed by Devon Industries, but he lead the company so well that it was hailed as one of the fastest growing companies in the medical industry.

In 1994 after the devastating Northridge earthquake, Dan used his political acumen and understanding of business needs to help the Small Business Administration address the concerns of the local business community. His efforts helped effectuate a change in the law pertaining to the amount of money a business can receive for recovery from a natural disaster.

Dan is also involved with many political, community and charitable programs both in the U.S. and in Israel. The groups he has helped run the gamut from Bedouin communities in Israel to students and faculty in Malibu. He has been particularly concerned with the homeless and has even created a new program called "Fresh Start" which offers homeless people housing and jobs.

It is our distinct pleasure to ask our colleagues to join with us in saluting Dan Sandel for his outstanding achievements and to congratulate him for receiving the prestigious Yitzhak Rabin Peace Award.

IN HONOR OF MARIO DE LA TORRE

**HON. NANCY PELOSI**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 15, 2000*

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Mario De La Torre on the occasion of his retirement after forty years as a member and leader of the Laborer's International Union of North America. Mr. De La Torre's life is an example of the American dream fulfilled and he deserves recognition for his able service to his fellow workers and the San Francisco community.

Born in Mexico, Mario came to the San Francisco Bay Area as a young man. He immigrated to America in search of the opportunity that he knew would come from hard

work and determination. At first he worked a series of jobs, including as a dishwasher and a cook, but he soon found his calling in the construction trades. At age twenty-three, he joined the Laborer's International Union of North America Local 261 and went to work as Laborer for various contractors.

Mario's leadership abilities soon became clear and he rose to the position of foreman. Mario served as foreman for prominent companies where his talents drew the notice of the San Francisco Housing Authority, and he was recruited to assume a leadership role with the agency.

By 1978, Mario had firmly established himself in the community and with his fellow Laborers. Well-respected by his peers, he was appointed that year as Field Representative for Local 261. He then began a second phase of his career as a leader in San Francisco's labor community.

Over the next twenty-one years, Mario held several different positions for the laborer's Local 261, serving as an Executive Board member, a Vice-President, the Business Manager, and eventually President. In all of these capacities, he executed his duties with distinction.

As is the pattern with Mr. De La Torre's life, his able work earned him the recognition of others. In 1991 he was selected for the post of Vice-President of the San Francisco Building and Construction Trades Council. In 1993, he joined the Executive Board of the Northern California District Council of Laborers and later served as Secretary/Treasurer of the Council. During this time, he also became a Trustee for the Aggregates and Concrete Association and a Delegate to the San Francisco Labor Council.

Mario is a leader within our community, serving as President of the Centro Social Obrero, as the Secretary/Treasurer of the Labor Council of Latin American Advancement, and as an Executive Board member of the Mexican-American Political Association.

Mr. Speaker, I join Mario's four sons, Mario Jr., Oscar, David, and Hugo, in wishing Mario a very happy and healthy retirement. He truly is an American hero.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO GOLDY S. LEWIS

**HON. JOE BACA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 15, 2000*

Mr. BACA. Mr. Speaker, this week Goldy S. Lewis will turn 79. I salute her, and wish her a happy birthday and best wishes. Ms. Lewis is the co-founder of Lewis Homes in my district, which now goes under the name of Lewis Operating Corp., and has been active in the real estate development industry since 1955. She is still very active in the business. As we look to providing housing, it is important that we recognize the pioneering efforts of those who have sought to further the American dream of having a place of one's own. Our community is better off, because of it.

A graduate of UCLA, Ms. Lewis has received numerous honors, including American Builder Magazine 1st Award of Distinction, 1963; West End YMCA Homer Briggs Service to Youth Award, 1990; City of Hope Spirit of

Life Award, 1993; Professional Builder Magazine Builder of the Year Award, co-recipient, 1988; National Housing Conference "Housing Person of the Year" Award, 1990; Entrepreneur of the Year Award, Inland Empire, 1990; Woman of the Year, California 25th Senate District, 1989; Distinguished Chief Executive Officer (with husband, Ralph M. Lewis), California State University, San Bernardino, 1991; City of Rancho Cucamonga Ralph and Goldy Lewis Sports Center, 1988; several other parks and sports fields named for the Lewises, including Lewis Park in Claremont. She has been listed in Who's Who in America (with her husband, Ralph M. Lewis), since 1980.

I have been very impressed with the extensive civic commitment of Ms. Lewis and her family. She has served on the City National Bank Advisory Board; UCLA Graduate School of Architecture and Urban Planning Dean's Council; Ralph and Goldy Lewis Hall of Planning and Development, University of Southern California; UCLA Foundation Chancellor's Associates; National Association of Home Builders, Building Industry Association of California, Baldy View Chapter; International Council of Shopping Centers; Urban Land Institute. She has served on the UCR Foundation Board of Trustees since January 1998, and was named (with her husband Ralph M. Lewis) Management Leaders of the Year, 1993.

In summary, it is indeed a pleasure to reflect on her many achievements, and to hope that she has many more, now that we have entered the new millennium.

TRIBUTE TO THE LATE EARL T. SHINHOSTER

**HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN**

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 15, 2000*

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, today I pay tribute to Earl T. Shinhoster who tragically lost his life last Sunday, and to offer my condolences to his wife, Ruby, and son, Michael. Earl Shinhoster was a family man and friend on a private level, and a national hero in the civil rights movement through his involvement in the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) on a very public level. His efforts were far reaching, and noticed across the nation, including the Sixth Congressional District of South Carolina which I represent.

Born in Savannah, Georgia, Shinhoster grew up in the eastside neighborhoods and graduated from Tomkins High School and Morehouse College in Atlanta, Georgia. His first involvement in the civil rights movement was in the 1960s as a member of the Connie Wimberly Youth Council.

Shinhoster will be fondly remembered for many achievements, but perhaps most for his 30 years of dedicated service to the NAACP. He served in many senior positions, including National Field Secretary. He also served as acting Executive Director and Chief Economic Officer from August 1994 through 1996. During this time, the NAACP went through a period of unprecedented growth going from 600,000 members to nearly 1 million. Shinhoster is also credited with helping the NAACP out of a period of considerable financial instability and internal strife. Shinhoster